

# Meeting Point

**Volume 35, Number 8, May 2011**

The community magazine for the villages of Olveston, Tockington, Old Down, Lower Hazel, Awkley, Ingst, Aust, Elberton and Littleton upon Severn

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**Publication date**

**1st of each month**

**Material for June 2011  
to the Editor or Deputy  
Editor by 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011.**

People with many interests live, not only longest, but  
happiest.

**George Matthew Allen**

## From the Editor

A reminder that there will be an **Open Day and  
Spring Fair** to celebrate the new extension to the  
Parish Hall on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 11.00am-3.00pm  
and that all are welcome.

Our cover this month is by Beverly Spencer

Meeting Point Founded in 1976 by the Anglican and  
Methodist churches in Olveston, near Bristol

Meeting Point magazine and Meeting Point Directory is online on the  
Community Website: [www.olvostonandaust.com](http://www.olvostonandaust.com).

# Village People

*Pat Thinkettle*

## **Introducing Andrea and Andy**

Andrea and Andy took over the licence of the White Hart, Littleton in January. They met when both were working in a hotel in Taunton. Andrea has worked in the hotel industry for fifteen years and Andy was the executive chef. Andy was born in the country and Andrea has three children for whom she wanted a better quality of life. As he is always in the kitchen, Andy decided to take two years out to work on a farm in Wiveliscombe, Devon. It ran sheep and a pheasant shoot and Andy wanted to see the food chain from start to finish. They then decided they would like to run a pub together and looked at quite a few throughout the south of England. Their criteria for the best location were: country, real ales, good food, good schools and to be part of the community. When they came for interview to Littleton it was love at first sight.

Their first day was Wassailing Night which gave them the opportunity to meet the locals and they were made very welcome. They live upstairs and Cara, Andrea's second daughter, works with them in the pub and Caitlin, her youngest, goes to Olveston School.

They plan on having a beer garden in the orchard behind the pub and a barbecue in the front at the side. They have chickens that visitors can feed and a drake is about to arrive. The eggs supply the pub and are also pickled. The new spring menu is in place and on 20<sup>th</sup> May part of the pub will be decorated on an Indian theme. There will be a buffet of Indian food and music and, if you wish to go, please ring 412275 to reserve a place. A cider festival will follow at the end of May, with five local guest ciders and a barbecue-complementing cider. In August there will be a Charity Village Day with children's games, live music and a hog roast.

So - plenty to look forward to, and Andy and Andrea will make you very welcome.

# Severn Salmon Fishing

In the mid-1960s, Thornbury resident Nick Large began taking photographs of the various types of salmon fishing practised in the Severn Estuary – and writing articles about them.

These traditions have practically died out now, but they are recorded in an exhibition Nick has put together for Thornbury and District Museum. Come along to see some wonderful photographs and discover the fascinating story of our local river, its fish and fishermen.



*Tony Bamfield at Folly Weir, Aust, 1967*

**‘Severn Salmon Fishing’ is at Thornbury & District Museum in Chapel St.  
3rd May – end of August. Tues to Fri: 1 – 4pm, Sat: 10am - 4pm.  
FREE entry. Tel: 857774. [www.thornburymuseum.org.uk](http://www.thornburymuseum.org.uk)**

# Thornbury Art Club Is Back In Town

Our Spring Exhibition 'Serendipity VI' is right in the town centre this year. It will be in St Mary's Way Arcade from **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May** until **Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup>**. The exhibition will comprise a huge range of styles and subject matter in a variety of media – oils, watercolours, pastels, collages, pen and wash and possibly some mixed combinations reflecting the myriad interests of our artist members...and we expect many of our members to be exhibiting!!

Also showing with us will be the Thornbury and District Stroke Group, whose participation we have enjoyed over the last five years and whom we are delighted to welcome again.

We look forward to filling our new venue with a wonderful show of work so do come and see the results of our labours ... and give us your personal critique!

Opening hours are 10am – 4 pm daily, closed on Sunday.

*Sue Hunter 412191*

## Oveston Sports & Social

We are a friendly club, that runs a successful Darts team who play their matches on Thursday evenings. Also on Thursday, we have a Poker club that meets at the club.

Once a month, there is a quiz night when all money raised is given to charity at the end of year. This year, 2 charities benefited by £300 each. On Sunday evenings during the winter, we run Bingo. Anyone will be most welcome at any of these events.

The next quiz will be Saturday May 7th @ 8.15 pm. We are available for Party hire on a Friday & for Christenings on Sundays. Why not pop along & discuss your requirements?

We are open Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday evenings, when we would give you a warm welcome.

Also, dates for the diary :  
Sat May 7<sup>th</sup>: A Quiz night.  
Sat June 4<sup>th</sup>: A Quiz night.

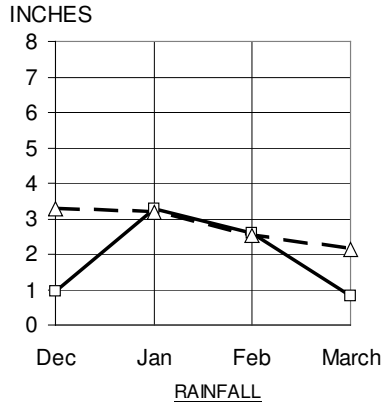
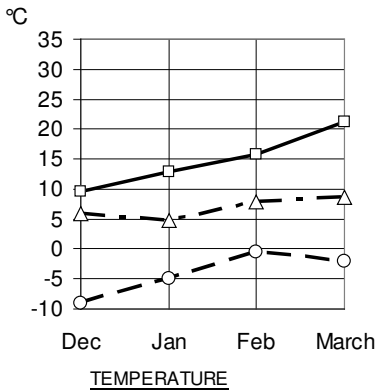
*Barbara Lansdown, Club Secretary*



# Weather Record

## January to March 2011

Marcus Bean



—□— Max.    —○— Min.    —△— Ave.

—□— Actual    —△— Ave.

### January

The early part of the month continued the cold conditions of December, with two falls of snow totalling 2.5cm. On the 7<sup>th</sup> the wind direction changed to Westerly and mild wet conditions then continued until the 18<sup>th</sup>. High pressure then built again bringing cold Easterly winds with these conditions continuing to the month's end.

Rainfall for the month was very close to normal and pressure was close to average, but temperature for the month was 1½°C below norm continuing the trend of cold Januaries over the last three years.

### February

After a cold start to the month Atlantic depressions moved in bringing gales and rain for the next seven days. Changeable conditions continued for the rest of the month with rain on most days. On three days we had over ½ inch. High pressure built again on the last two days of the month.

Rainfall for the month was very close to normal while pressure was marginally below average, but average temperature was approximately 1½°C above norm.

### March

High pressure dominated the first nine days of the month bringing cold dry conditions and Easterly winds. Atlantic winds then set in with warmer conditions until the 14<sup>th</sup> with a little rain. High pressure then returned with an extended dry period of thirteen days with no rain and some warm sunny days. The last three days saw a return to more changeable conditions and some rain.

Rainfall for the month was about a third of norm and the driest since 2000, whilst pressure and temperature were both higher than average.

# Our Parish Matters

*Andy Clarke*

It's wonderful to announce good news and the completion of the changes to Olveston Parish Hall is a marvellous example of co-operation between Parish Hall Management, the Pre-School and the Parish Council – not to mention the builder who met every target set. Congratulations to all concerned.

Co-operation is the watchword too between the Parish Council and St.Mary's Church, Olveston. The Council is currently in discussion with Rev. Roly Bain to consider local burial requirements in the future now that the churchyard cemetery has only limited burial space left. While new provision is not urgent, it will be required in a few years time and we must be ready for it.

The new pathway from Old Down towards Alveston is a boon to walkers but horse riders should note that it is not for their use. Neither should they use the footpath towards Olveston from Old Down to Foxholes Lane.

Old Down features heavily in this article and the red phone box topic is aired again. While Tockington's box looks to have a positive future there has been little response so far to the future of the Old Down box, when it becomes decommissioned in the near future. Please tell us your thoughts.

Woodhouse Park Scout Campsite at Fernhill is now under new management. It is no longer under local administration but under the control of the national body for scouting. However, new resident wardens have been installed and there will continue to be regular meetings between them, local residents and interested parties to ensure a comfortable co-existence between the site and the rest of the area.

Finally the Parish Council is holding its Annual Parish Assembly on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April at the Old Down Pavillion, starting at 7.30pm. There will be a summary of the Parish Councils' activities over the last year as well as a talk on the History of the Parish Council by that fount of local knowledge Mr. Eric Garrett.

## Litter Pickers

We shall be meeting on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 1.00pm at the Parish Hall car park. Equipment is provided. New helpers are always welcome.

(On another 'pet' grievance. Well done to those many responsible dog owners who use that simple but brilliant invention, the dog-poo bag. Shame on those few inconsiderate neighbours who just can't be bothered and allow their pets to foul the pavements indiscriminately. But they won't be reading this of course.)

*Rod Williams, 612850.*

# Aust Pilgrimage Walk



Aust Church has some urgent fund-raising to do, to replace stolen lead from the church roof, and this will be reflected in a retiring collection at the end of the Annual Pilgrimage Walk from the Cathedral to Aust on May 21st.

You don't have to do all 14 miles! Join us at Patchway (Church of the Holy Family) at about 11am, or opposite Cattybrook Brickworks at about 12.30pm, or for the end-of-pilgrimage service in St John's at 4pm.

Details from David Bone – 01454 614601.

## Workaid

We have recently been asked by several people if we are still collecting for Workaid, so have decided to do so. Many thanks in advance.

Workaid tackles poverty in a practical way by providing disadvantaged people with the tools they need to earn a living and build better lives for themselves and their families.

Donated items are refurbished at a central workshop and mostly shipped to East Africa.

If you have any of the following, we would be very happy to collect:

- Sewing and knitting machines; haberdashery: reels of cotton, zips, bindings, buttons, trimmings and cotton fabric.
- Typewriters and duplicators
- Tools for carpentry, masonry, metalwork, leatherwork and car maintenance.
- Gardening tools.

Contact Derek Glew, 613433 and Pat Thirkettle, 612084

# Thornbury's Own Local Organic Veg Box Scheme

Do you like home-grown vegetables but are too busy to grow your own? Do you want vegetables that are truly locally grown and organic? Do you want to be able to visit the fields where your vegetables are grown, and maybe volunteer?

If so then Thornbury CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) is your answer.

**What is a CSA?** This is when local farmers work closely with local people to produce local produce for them. The idea is that the farmer gets a guaranteed market for the crop while the members know how the food was grown and pay a modest price for local organic food. It also means local farmers are supported in growing more sustainably, using fewer chemicals, less imported animal feed and less packaging.

Thornbury CSA is a new not-for-profit scheme, started in 2010, providing good quality locally grown food for people in the Thornbury area. It is similar to a vegetable box scheme in that you buy a share of mixed vegetables each week. Members of the scheme can even come and meet the growers, join in social events and help with the sowing, planting and weeding. The fruit and vegetables are grown at the Sheiling School, which is between Thornbury Church and Castle School. The produce is seasonal, locally grown and biodynamic. Biodynamic is roughly the same as organic, and no artificial sprays or fertilisers are used.

**How do I Join?** Membership costs £10 per year for a household. You can choose either a Standard Share, (enough for two adults) for £41 per month or £480 per year or a Half Share (enough for a single adult) for £20.50 per month or £240 per year. Vegetable shares are collected by members each week from the Sheiling School (currently 4-7pm on Thursdays). Members who can't collect can pay an extra £2 per week to have their share delivered, if they live in the Thornbury area.

Last year's vegetables included a fantastic selection of potatoes, onions, carrots, parsnips, turnips, cabbages, spinach, broccoli, brussels sprouts, beans, peas, courgettes, squashes, lettuces, tomatoes and apples. In future years there will be more salad crops, more exotic vegetables and more fruit.

This is an exciting chance to be in at the beginning of a new sustainable project. To join or to find out more, please either email your contact details to [info@thornburycsa.org.uk](mailto:info@thornburycsa.org.uk), or telephone 01454 416778 for more information and a membership form.



# Bogus charity collecting clothes

A flyer is being distributed in the South Gloucestershire area, seeking to collect clothes on behalf of a bogus charity called '**Breaking the Waves**'. Checks have found that the website on the flyer does not connect, the phone number is no longer valid and the company BTW Ltd does not exist. In addition the charity number, 1133899, listed on the flyer has been withdrawn.

South Gloucestershire Council's trading standards officers and neighbourhood police are warning people in the area to be wary of door-to-door leaflets asking for unwanted clothing.

Trading Standards said: "Clothing collections are regularly conducted throughout the area and, although some are genuinely for charitable purposes, we have concerns that others are just done for commercial gain and that the public are being misled by false claims about the use to which their donations are put and the use of bogus company details. The only way to guarantee that donations benefit good causes is to deal only with charities you know are genuine, or take unwanted items direct to a charity shop. At the moment textile prices are high and consumers need to ensure that their valuable donations reach the organisations they wish to give to".

Anyone who is in any doubt about door-to-door flyers like this, or any others offering goods or services, should contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06.

## Calling all young model-makers

to St John's Church, Aust. On Saturday 14th May, there will be a Model Makers' exhibition

**Where:** in the Church

**When:** 11.30 - 3.30

**Why:** In the last 6 months, Aust Church has suffered the theft of lead from the roof on three occasions, and we need to raise money for repairs and to improve security. This exhibition is a step on the way, and we hope that young and young-at-heart model makers will offer items for display. There will also be on display some very sophisticated models, constructed by two experts, Graham Clark, and Edward Addis, and there is a chance that some working flying models will take to the air - indoors!

Admission is free. Donations, large and small, are sought for the roof fund. For further information, contact David Bone on 01454 614601, or e-mail david.bone10@btinternet.com

# Police Report - March 2011

A total of 5 crimes have been reported for the month of March, which is a significant drop from previous months.

Two of these crimes occurred on the same night, whereby outbuildings in Olveston and Mumbleys Lane were broken into and a garden shredder and a chain saw were stolen. A lorry parked up overnight in Aust had a battery stolen. Animals at Old Down Country Park have been harmed again; pens were also broken into. If anyone has any information about this incident, please contact us on the below number.

We recently attended a Neighbour Hood Watch meeting in Tockington, where it was pointed out that the recent changes to the recycling collection could advertise new high value electrical items in your house. For instance, if you buy a new television, please do not leave the box out for the recycling as it may draw unwanted attention to your property. Please be aware that there is an ongoing problem of theft of drain covers. This seems to be all over the South Glos district. If you see anyone working on the road that doesn't appear to be South Glos or sub contractor, please try to get the registration of the van and either pass to me or crimestoppers.

You may have seen in the local paper about the launch of Rural Watch Scheme.

## **What are the main aims of the Rural Watch Scheme?**

- 1) To reduce local opportunities for theft of livestock and deadstock.
- 2) To reinforce the community spirit so that everyone can contribute towards the protection of their property by mutual co-operation and communication.
- 3) To introduce early warning systems in farming and countryside areas.
- 4) To improve the intelligence flow between the countryside communities and the police.

## **What are the advantages of a Rural Watch?**

- 1) A reduction in crime and the fear of crime impacting on the community.
- 2) Suspicious people and vehicles can quickly be reported to the police and other members of the countryside communities.
- 3) Information and advice can be quickly and efficiently circulated between the police and the community.
- 4) A crime vigilant community in partnership with the police will create a safer environment.

The next Beat Surgery in Olveston Stores will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May between 10.30 – 11.30am.

To contact PC 3404 Roger Hopes or PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery, please call 0117 945 5959 or mobile (on duty only) 07919 628625/07917 586645. These numbers MUST NOT be used to report crimes or incidents.

For emergencies, phone 999. To report a crime or an incident, phone 0845 456 7000.

# Oveston Fayre

Arrangements for Oveston Fayre continue apace - the Church and the School are combining to host a Community Fayre on 18<sup>th</sup> June. We had hoped to close The Street for the afternoon but sadly, following a series of objections from the Parish Council, we will now be based in the church, the Vicarage and the school grounds. But that's OK! Cole Skuse from Bristol City is opening it at 2pm, The Westerleigh Brass Band are playing from 2-3pm, and two more bands will follow them.

Displays from the Brownies, the Beavers and the school choir are promised. There's a Tug-of-War competition at 4.30pm in the school grounds followed by a concert of 70's and 80's music. There's a beer and a Pimms Tent as well as cream teas, as well as lots of stalls and attractions and sideshows. A Grand Draw features a cash prize of £100, free tickets on the railway and lots of other worthwhile ones donated by local businesses and parents. All this, and we're not even organised yet - don't miss it. More news to follow as things evolve. June 18th, 2pm - 6pm - and it's for all ages!

# Royal Wedding

If you get this before the Royal Wedding, why not come and watch it on the big screen in St Mary's church?! You can join in the hymns and the service. Doors open at 10am, and we'll follow it with fizz and wedding cake, and the bar will be open as well. No charge for admission of course, though there will be the opportunity for donations to cover costs. Any queries to Roly on 616593.

# The Pet Service

The Pet Service this year is on May 22nd at 10am, and we're hoping to focus on Bristol Zoo and wild animals. But please bring your domestic ones for the traditional blessing of the animals. Bring wild ones too, if you've got one!

# Thank You

Muriel Shurmer would like to thank everyone who attended Anita's funeral. Your very kind donations to Harrow MS Centre in her memory totalled £469.60. The Centre has also received an additional amount of £1,691 from direct donations & the Memorial Service and the fund is still growing which is amazing.

Thank you all for your support which has been overwhelming. I am so fortunate to live in such a caring village.



# MARLWOOD SCHOOL



**"Community Clickers Club"  
...spring clean your ICT skills!!**

Are you interested in improving your basic ICT skills ?

Do you want to learn more about Microsoft Office 2010, how to use the Internet effectively or getting to grips with email?

Perhaps you are planning on going back to work or just want to make the most of your computer !

Marlwood ICT Department is currently offering free 1 hour ICT sessions from 28<sup>th</sup> April until 14<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

Places are limited so if you are interested in joining the class please contact - Maxine Thompsett on 01454 862541 or email [theschool@marlwood.net](mailto:theschool@marlwood.net) for more information.

**FREE ADMISSION  
LESSONS TAKE PLACE EVERY  
THURSDAY DURING TERM TIME  
4.30 pm – 5.30 pm  
Room Y16 at MARLWOOD SCHOOL**

## **Olveston School Annual Quiz Night**

**Friday 20th May  
Doors open at 7.30pm  
Quiz starts at 8.00pm**

Our annual Quiz Night is being held on Friday 20th May 2011 in the main school hall. The questions this year are kindly being set by some of the teachers at Olveston School who were last year's winning team. As before, we are looking for teams of 4-6 people to come along and test their general knowledge.

The cost is £2.50 per person, B.Y.O refreshments and snacks. There is a prize for the winning team and your team name will be recorded on the winners' shield.

Please email [clareevanstobe@hotmail.com](mailto:clareevanstobe@hotmail.com) or telephone 07733 304451 for more information or to book your team's table.

# Stepping Stones Pre-School,

*by a parent Sandra Marr*

We are so lucky to have a choice of pre-schools in Olveston. Stepping Stones in the Methodist Hall is well loved by the parents and children that use it. My daughters were both unsure of large groups so I chose Stepping Stones because it is small and friendly, and the leaders, Gill and Catherine, quickly got to know my children well. They treat children as individuals which helps so much towards settling them.

Stepping Stones attracts children from the surrounding villages, including those who aren't settling well in their local pre-schools. They may be shy or have individual requirements and they all flourish in Stepping Stones caring and personal environment.

Any anxiety I felt leaving my child for the first time was quickly dispelled. I was encouraged to settle them as I wanted to. I stayed with Josie often to settle her, but many leave children to be comforted by a cuddle or game with their favourite teacher. It is a very safe environment too, they are extremely careful about this – from everyone having a hand held on walks out, to hand washing and what the children touch, eat and smell.

We have very happy memories of picnics and play at Cattle Country, Sports Day picnics and paddling at Mundy Playing Fields, walks out to St Mary's churchyard to collect leaves or to look at the spring flowers, and playing in Peggy's garden next door. There are many seasonal activities and the children seem to have something lovely to show their parents after each session, the staff were exhausted at Christmas after all the crafts they had arranged! Looking forward to a variety of activities and fun really helps keep children enthusiastic.

It has been a joy watching my children grow in confidence, thank you for such a wonderful preparation for school. Grace settled easily at Olveston School, we were so pleased. As Josie starts there this September we will miss you all at Stepping Stones, but I might be back for one of the walks out!

## Thank you

Rachel, Imogen, Madeline, Lauren and family would like to express our appreciation for the many kind words, cards and flowers we have received over the weeks since the passing of our amazing Husband/Dad, Derrick.

Everyone has been so supportive and we have been overwhelmed with the support we have received both recently and throughout Derrick's brave, strong fight.

# Olveston Playgroup (now Pre-School)

It may be of interest to some that the Playgroup (now Pre-school) is nearing its 50<sup>th</sup> year since it began. Mrs. Brenda Baker, who lived in a bungalow in Vicarage Lane, started a small group of children coming together a few days a week.

It became so popular that once there were more than six children (two of them Mrs. Baker's) she was forced to find other premises. A committee was formed with the mothers and consequently the group was moved to the Parish Hall. We then had to find more helpers and equipment. Most of the equipment was given by various people and other things were bought such as the set of Galt Boxes. These we believe are still in use today.

It is wonderful to think that from small beginnings a very thriving and successful Pre-School exists.

We wish them every success in their new surroundings.

*Peggy James and June Hahn.*

## Henry Halibut Heron

We've only been residents of Olveston for a short while, having moved from Almondsbury two years ago, but we have been surprised and delighted at the friendliness of the village.

In addition to visitors of the human variety, we have many and varied wildlife calling in from time to time. None was more welcome than Henry (or 'en-ree' as we called him) the Heron - see the photo. Henry frequently called in to fish in the stream in our garden and was often spotted looking extremely chuffed with himself, having bagged yet another eel.



We had wondered why we hadn't seen him for a while and, as with your other readers, it is with great disappointment that we read of his senseless demise earlier this year.

*David & Clare  
The Green*

# Open Mic Night at The White Hart Olveston

The Open Mic night at the White Hart in Olveston usually runs on the first Monday of each month, except in May when it will be on the 9th because of the bank holiday. It starts around 8.30pm and gives musicians the opportunity to perform in front of a local audience. The evening is free and a friendly affair, very low key with an appreciative audience.

Performers just turn up to the lounge bar and put their name on the running order. There is a manned PA system with microphones available for those who want to use it. Most performers are local, though the event does bring in musicians and singers from the Bristol Open Mic circuit. These aren't professionals and age is no barrier as performers range from 20-somethings to 80-somethings with voices that need to be heard. Singers can drop in too, as there is usually someone with a guitar who can accompany them - it's a very friendly sort of evening. New talent is particularly welcome as one of the objectives of open mic is to give a platform for beginners.

Music varies from old favourites to original songs written by the performers. Individual artists, duets and bands, solo singers and solo musicians have performed at the night. So there really is something for everyone. The audience is not just friends and family, anyone is welcome. Come along and listen to some live local music... have a chat and have a beer... for a free Monday night out you can't really beat it.

*If you want to know more, contact Hamish on 01454 610081  
or Noel on 01454 614099*

## Marlwood School

**'Angel Of Death: The Story Of Smallpox'  
Public Lecture And Book Signing  
Professor Gareth Williams**

Gareth Williams is Professor of Medicine at the University of Bristol and author of the best-selling 'Angel of Death', which was shortlisted for the 2010 Wellcome Trust Book Prize. He is Chair of the Trustees of the Edward Jenner Museum in Berkeley and is an engaging and entertaining speaker

**Free Admission  
Wednesday, 11th May 2011, 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm  
Drama Hall, Marlwood School**

# Old Down Cricket Club

## 150 Club Winners April:

£50 Paddy Gardner  
£15 Chris Northover  
£5 Mike Rowen  
Easter Egg Jon Pullin  
Royal Wedding Ian Watkins

## Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

12th March Charles Jarvis  
2nd April James Green

Home Fixtures at The Park in May (2.00pm Start)

7th May 2nd XI v Stapleton A  
14th May 1st XI v Phoenix West Indians  
21st May 2nd XI v Stothert & Pitt  
28th May 1st XI v Hampset  
30th May 2nd XI v University Staff

Senior Nets: Wednesday Evenings  
Colts Nets: Friday Evenings

Everyone is welcome, so please come along & support the teams!!

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

## Movies at St Mary's - May

*Trevor Anderson*



There are two shows for **children** this month. On **Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup>** we show an animated sci-fi saga by Pixar, the makers of Toy Story. On **Monday May 30<sup>th</sup>** we show a hilarious animated comedy from Sony Dreamworks. Doors open 9.30 for popcorn and soft drinks and shows start at **10.00**.

For **adults**, also on **May 2<sup>nd</sup>**: a joyful tongue-in-cheek musical based on a hugely successful stage show. Come along and dance in the aisles. Doors open 7.00 and show starts **7.30**. Licensed bar.

Admission free, though donations welcome. Cushions advisable.

For film titles, see posters and leaflets in church or join the mailing list (contact [trevoranderson@btinternet.com](mailto:trevoranderson@btinternet.com) or 613279)



# Thornbury Library

## May opening hours

Friday	29 April	Closed
Saturday	30 April	Normal hours
Monday	2 May	Closed
Tuesday	3 May	Normal hours

## Nervous about computers?

Don't panic! Thornbury Library can help!

- In partnership with Age UK South Gloucestershire we offer computer lessons for people aged 50+. A single lesson costs £4 but we offer a series of four lessons for £15.
- We are introducing computer support volunteers who can help with quick one off queries e.g. how to set up an email address. At the moment Mike is available on Monday mornings (10.00-12.00noon) and another volunteer is starting soon who will offer help on Friday mornings.
- If you are having trouble tracing your family tree using the website *Ancestry* then Lynn can give you a hand. Just ask for details.
- Filton College will be offering a FREE basic 18 week course starting in September. Once again just ask for details.
- South Gloucestershire Community Learning Department are also offering a FREE course on Thursdays from 10.00-12.00noon from
- 5 May – 30 June. Details on request or ring Maggie on 01454 86 3836.

## Talk on herbs by Jekka McVicar. Wednesday 4 May. 7.30pm. (refreshments from 7.10pm)

Local gardening celebrity Jekka has kindly agreed to give an evening talk entitled *Herbs for All Reasons*. Tickets available in advance price £2.50 library members/ £5.00 non members to include refreshments. This is likely to be a very popular event and for reasons of space we have to limit the numbers of tickets sold so please book early.

## Advice on making a will – Monday 9 May 10.00 – 12.00noon

Georgina Tankard, Estate Planning Associate with Collective Legal Solutions will be available to answer your queries on the first Monday morning of each month. The topics covered include Wills, Power of Attorney and Probate. Please ask for details or just drop in. There is no charge.

# Severnside Ramblers

Get Walking Day is a chance for people all over the country to join the Ramblers on a free short walk. Join us then, or on any of our walks. Non-members are always very welcome.



For more information about walks in May, log on to [www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk](http://www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk), or pick up a programme at your local library. A contact name and telephone number is given for each walk. We meet at Aldi car park, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DA at the times shown below and share lifts to the start of the walk

## An Evening with Sir Richard Eyre

It's serendipity – just as **ACT** prepares to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the launch of its Arts and Community Theatre Project on 18 May 2007, along comes support from one of the giants of British theatre – Sir Richard Eyre.



**ARTS & COMMUNITY  
IN THORNBURY**

Sir Richard was Artistic Director of the National Theatre from 1987 to 1997, and has won a clutch of prestigious awards for theatre, film, television and opera with a literary award thrown in for good measure. He has turned his immense directorial talents to musicals such as *Guys and Dolls* and *Mary Poppins*. His Shakespearean productions include *King Lear*, *Richard III* and *Hamlet*, having directed both Jonathan Pryce and Daniel Day-Lewis in the lead rôle. He turned to opera in 1994, directing Angela Gheorghiu in *La Traviata* at The Royal Opera House and last year led a new production of Bizet's *Carmen* with Roberto Alagna. Films include *Iris* and *Notes on a Scandal*, both starring Judi Dench, and among his television successes was *Tumbledown*, for which he won a BAFTA for Best Director. Recently, Sir Richard has directed Kim Cattrall in *Private Lives* and is currently working with Sir Cameron Mackintosh on *Betty Blue Eyes*, a new musical, based on *A Private Function*, a delightfully funny film written by Alan Bennett. It features a group of people rearing a pig to eat at a celebratory feast, marking the wedding of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip in times of austerity – so very topical!

**An Evening with Sir Richard Eyre** will be on **19 May**, when he will speak about his amazing theatrical career and answer questions from the guests. The venue is **The Gables Inn** at **Falfield** starting at **7.30pm**. Tickets are £30 to include a hot buffet supper, available from Thornbury Garden Shop, or ring 01454 417038. **ACT** hopes that this will be the first of several similar events. Actors Samuel West and Patrick Malahide have also agreed to come at a later date, so watch this space!



*What a lovely start to Totally Locally for the Summer months, the rain managed to stay away and it was lovely to see everyone again. I feel that we are beginning to find our feet now and begin to offer products that you can rely on us to provide each month.*

Our **Cotswold Gold Rapeseed Oil** – remains a winner and it was so lovely to hear so many of you agreeing and returning to replenish your supplies, its just so healthy and a lovely alternative to Olive Oil.

**Homemade marmalade and jams** give a tasty alternative to branded products.

Our **fresh vegetables** sold out

Our **locally grown seedling and cuttings** did really well and we will have herbs, fruit bushes, courgettes, leeks, butternut squashes, runner beans and other seasonal plants available in May. They will all be hardy, grown in local soil and ready to transplant..

Our **fresh bread** from Crusty Loaf makes it so easy to explore their new recipes or just to pick up a fresh loaf while you wander round...

Jeff's **local honey** continues to be very popular and he is exploring new recipes for you to taste..

Hannah's **cupcakes** are a great treat and a lovely idea to pre-order for parties.. and her gift range continually changes with the comments she receives and requests that she gets..

Bev's **All Butter large Cakes** were a new addition last month, beautifully presented in boxes or sold in slices for you to enjoy.

Romy's range of **Indian Sauces, Pickles and Chutneys** continue to offer our spicy addition, beautifully seasoned for those who have aromatic taste buds, orders taken for parties.

Helen's farmhouse offers a range of **fresh products** straight from the farm.

Alex will continue with his **pick and mix array of plants** for hanging baskets and pots.

We also had a few extra stalls of jewellery, cards and gifts that will help with unusual ideas for presents...

We continue to offer the BBQ of bacon from Powells and rolls from the Crusty Loaf with coffee and tea and homemade butter shortbread if you fancy something sweet. This creates a wonderful atmosphere to catch up on all the gossip from our local community.

The next market day is on:-

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 – 12.00 and thereafter monthly...**

Jane Sunnucks Old Down 01454 419931

# Anthony Trollope In Barse

The WEA, the UK's largest voluntary provider of adult education, has a Thornbury branch run by local volunteers. We aim to offer support to all learners so that individuals with very different backgrounds, levels of general education and learning skills can learn together successfully because of shared interests.

There are places still available for the Dayschool "**Anthony Trollope in Barse**" which will be held at The Chantry, 52 Castle Street Thornbury on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> **May 10am – 4.30pm.**

In his Barse and Palliser novels Trollope explores the manners, values, religion and politics of mid-Victorian England. This course uses them to understand the world in which they are set.

For further information, please pick up a WEA brochure in Thornbury library, or Powell's butchers of Olveston, or ring Simon on 01454 610071. Also [www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk)

Tuition is free to learners on some benefits or on low incomes – please ask for further information.

## Thanks From Canon David Sansum

I would like to thank my friends who attend the 8 am Communion service for their kindness and generosity in presenting me with a card and a cheque on my last Sunday of taking the service, at least on a regular basis. I have been doing so about twice a month for 13 years, taking over from the late Reverend Harry Stoppard, and have also sometimes taken the later services.

Although not a native of Olveston I have known the village since childhood. My parents were very friendly with Harold and Margaret Haskins who then lived on Haw Lane, and we frequently visited them, when I would play with their children, one of whom, Michael, still lives in the village. We were also friendly with George Green, the organist, and as I was keen on playing organs he allowed me to play the huge old three-manual organ which then stood in the area where coffee is now served after services. In those days it needed to be pumped by hand.

In fact my main interest in the Church at that time was in the music, and I have played organs all over the country. Sometimes when I arrive at a church to take the service, as a retired priest, they will say "Sorry but we have no organist today". I say "That's alright, I'll play it", and I end up doing what they call multi-tasking. It is a bit awkward if the organ is in a west-end gallery with the altar at the opposite end, but at least I can usually knock out a few hymns.

At theological college I finished up being in charge of the music which was quite a responsibility as Evensong was sung every day and I had to play for it. We sang all the psalms which were appointed for the day. If you look at the Prayer-book you will see that on the 27<sup>th</sup> evening of a month 6 psalms are appointed to be used. We sang every one of them, each to a different chant. We also sang the Litany once a month, but being the organist spared me there, as while I was playing I couldn't sing the lead part, as every student was expected to do in their turn. I have survived 55 years in the ministry without intoning the Litany and think it's fairly certain that I'll never do so now.

Much of my time as a priest was spent away from the Bristol diocese, firstly in the West Midlands, in the Birmingham diocese, and then in the East Midlands, in Derbyshire, where I was Vicar of a market town not unlike Thornbury, for 22 years. Eventually I became a Rural Dean and then, to my amazement, an honorary Canon of Derby cathedral. It sounds good but there isn't a penny extra stipend when you are in office or of pension once you are retired!

As you know a Vicarage is a tied house and as soon as you resign you have to leave it for your successor. (If there is one. You can't be too sure of that today.) I was most fortunate in that I'd inherited my family home in Easter Compton on the deaths of my parents, and so was able to come back to my roots in South Gloucestershire. I hadn't been back long before I started to find work in the dioceses of Bristol and Gloucester, which is how I came to enjoy the enormous privilege of serving for so long in the beautiful church of St Mary, Olveston.

With all good wishes,

David Sansum

## **From the Registers at St Mary's**

20th March 2011 Baptism of Nikita Amelia Stephens daughter of Mathew Stephens & Karen James

27th March 2011 Baptism of Jasmine Elizabeth daughter of Martin & Natalie Bisker

also Elizabeth Amber and Rebecca Petra twin daughters of Ian & Jacqueline Latham - Roberts

3rd April 2011 Baptism of Sophia Elizabeth daughter of John & Emily Cavender Dengel

18th March Burial of Ashes of Dorothy Cobb

# Church News

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

May 1	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir Breakfast Club Evensong	Rev Philip Rowe Rev Philip Rowe Breakfast Club Team Mrs Janet McBride
May 8	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship with Choir Breakfast Club Memorial Service	Rev David Bone Mrs Ann Lloyd Breakfast Club Team Rev Philip Rowe
May 15	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir Breakfast Club Evensong	Rev Roly Bain Rev P Rowe & Rev R Bain Breakfast Club Team Rev R Bain & Mr D Jones
May 22	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Pet Service Breakfast Club Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev Roly Bain Rev Roly Bain Breakfast Club Team Rev P. Rowe & Rev R Crew
May 29	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Breakfast Club Holy Communion(BCP) with Choir	Rev David Bone Rev David Bone Breakfast Club Team Rev Philip Rowe

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

### Contacts:

**Rev Philip Rowe**, 01454 613223; email: [office@stmaryssevernside.org](mailto:office@stmaryssevernside.org)

**Rev Roly Bain** for Baptisms, Marriages, & Funerals 01454 616593

**Verger:** **Mrs. June Robbins**, 01454 617491

[www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html](http://www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html)

**PRAYER GROUP:** Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

**WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION:** At 9.00am led by the Rev. Roly Bain

## CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

May 8	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
May22	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Janet Ford,01454 633300, Terry McLeavy 633680

## ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

May 1	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole
May 15	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

May 8	9am	Matins	Tracey Black
May22	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

May 1	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch. St Andrew's Filton	Morning Worship led by Miss Rosemary Clews Evening Worship led by Mrs Ann Osmond
May 8	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney. The Breakfast Club will join us later
May 15	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch. Tock Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams Taize Service led by Rev Sandy Williams
May22	10am	Olv. Ch...	Morning Worship led by Mrs Rosalie Doyle
May29	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams

**NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP:** This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May. To book your lunch please ring 416528

**TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP** meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs. 19<sup>th</sup> May To book lunch please ring 613241 or 612112

**PRAYER MEETINGS:** Thursdays at 2.15pm in the Olveston Vestry.

**COFFEE MORNINGS:** Sats 10.30 - 12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall.

**CREAM TEAS** will be served on Tockington Green & in the Chapel on Bank Holiday Mondays May 2<sup>nd</sup> & May 30<sup>th</sup>

**CONTACT: Rev Sandy Williams** Tel 07841 752 941

Sandy.williams48@btinternet.com;

## THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and conversational Bible studies incorporating Communion, on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm. We also visit other Churches and events, so please check our Notice Board or contact .

**Mike and Barbara Matthews**, tel. 07840 793772

email: [thevine\\_awkley@hotmail.com](mailto:thevine_awkley@hotmail.com)

## THE OASIS CHURCH, OLDOWN

May 1	6.30pm	Roger Greenslade
May 8	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies
May 15	6.30pm	Steve Loader
May 22	6.30pm	Mike Hawkins
May 29	6.30pm	Ed Stuart

Prayer Time every Thurs 7.30pm

For further information please contact **Olwen Wonnacott**, 412141 or **Paul Ashford**, 07774 110814 or email: [Paul@CalebGroup.net](mailto:Paul@CalebGroup.net)

## AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Family Worship 11am Evening Worship 6.30 Phone 632564 for more details .

**BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP** - Our Sunday morning meetings are held at The Grange School in Warmley at 11 am.

Contact 01454 613305 [www.bcfnet.com](http://www.bcfnet.com)

**RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING**, Thornbury

Sat Vigil Mass 18.00 Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Tel 01454 412223 [www.ctlk-thornbury.org.uk](http://www.ctlk-thornbury.org.uk)

**SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**, Thornbury

Meeting for Worship Sundays 10.30-11.30: The Hanover Room, The Chantry, Castle St. Wheelchair accessible. Children welcome with prior notice.

**Local contact:** Ben & Candia Barman 01454 412603

National: [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) Bristol area: [www.bristolquakers.org.uk](http://www.bristolquakers.org.uk)



# Diary Dates for May 2011

The information given below is believed to be correct as we go to press.

1 <sup>st</sup> Sun			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	Monday Morning Movies Monday Movies	10.00 7.30pm	StM StM
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women-Mystery Tour	9.30-11.30	WR
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed			
5 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Thornbury Farmers' Market Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 9.00-1.30 2.00-4.30	OS+  MH
6 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Thornbury Arts Festival to 15th		
7 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Totally Locally on Tockington Green Coffee Morning	9.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	 MH
9 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Craft Group tel 07747 562264 for venue	7.30-9.30	
10 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Women's Institute: Floral Demo. Aust Parish Council	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR PH EVH
11 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Royal British Legion - Men	7.30pm	DGCL
12 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
14 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Grand Opening of Parish Hall extension Model Makers Exhibition Spring Village Supper & AGM	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 11.00-3.00pm 11.30-3.30pm 7.30	MH AVH  AC LVH
15 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Charity Run for Arban-Bristol 10K		
17 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women - Bingo	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR DGCL
18 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club- Floral Variations	2.00pm	AH
19 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Thornbury Farmers' Market Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 9.00-1.30 2.00-4.30	OS+  MH
20 <sup>th</sup> Fri			
21 <sup>st</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Aust Pilgrimage Walk Helsfest Community Festival A Taste of Bangladesh	10.30-12.00  2.00-9.00pm 7.30pm	MH   StM

23 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club	1.30pm	AH
24 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Olveston Parish Council	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR AP
25 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Alveston History Soc -The Bristol Stage Severn Valley Quilters. 417559 for details	7.30 7.30pm	AMC AMH
26 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group-	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
27 <sup>th</sup> Fri			
28 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Car Boot Sale at Marlwood School	10.30-12.00 1.30-3.30pm	MH
29 <sup>th</sup> Sun			
30 <sup>th</sup> Mon			

## Looking ahead to June

12th	RBL 90 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea at Tomorosa		
18th	Church & School Fayre		

**KEY:** **AC** Aust Church; **ACR** – Almondsbury Church Rooms; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alveston Methodist Church; **AMH**- Alveston Methodist Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; **CCCP** – Castle Court Car Park; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry; **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall; **OS** – Olveston School; **OS+** – Olveston Stores; **OV** – Olveston Vicarage; **PH** – Olveston Parish Hall; **StM** – St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church; **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; **URC** - Thornbury United Reform Church; **WR** – Wesley Rooms.

**Contact details** for any clubs or organisations in the Meeting Point area can be found in the Meeting Point Directory on the community website: [www.olvestonandaust.com](http://www.olvestonandaust.com). If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: [meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com](mailto:meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com)

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